

Read the Special Articles this month on the value of "Vital Statistics in Business."

CALIFORNIA ~~STATE~~ BOARD OF HEALTH

MONTHLY BULLETIN

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REGULAR MEETINGS

The California State Board of Health meets regularly the first Saturday of each month, but the stated meetings of January, April, July, and October constitute the quarterly meetings required by law to be held at the Capitol of the State.

By courtesy of the University of California the Food and Drug Laboratory and the Hygienic Laboratory are located in University buildings at Berkeley, California.

Address all communications to the

SECRETARY, Sacramento, California.

OCTOBER BULLETIN.

ACCURATE VITAL STATISTICS AS A PUBLIC INVESTMENT.

WILLIAM F. SNOW.

The September, 1909, number of the American Statistical Association Quarterly* contains an excellent history of the efforts of the State Board of Health to obtain accurate records of California deaths, births and marriages.

The name lists of deaths have been fairly complete for several years and the marriage records are accurate, but the births are still unsatisfactory.

At first thought the citizen considers such records to be an expensive luxury to the taxpayer. He fails to see any special value in recording all the facts that the State may gather about an individual who happens to be born into a community or removed from it by death. The marriage of a man and woman also seems to be not an event of any consequence to the Health Department of a State.

The following study of newspaper copy and letters from the Secretary's files will illustrate some of the very frequent needs for accurate Vital Statistics.

John Doe dies suddenly, and the next morning the papers have full accounts of the occurrence with headlines like these:

PROMINENT CITIZEN DROPS DEAD ON SIDEWALK.

*John Doe Well Known Throughout
the Country.*

MYSTERY CONCERNING HIS EARLY LIFE RECALLED.

Murder Theory Not Given Credence.

John Doe was discovered lying unconscious in a pool of blood in front of the Acme Cigar Store at two a. m. this morning. * * * Subsequent examination at

the hospital proved that the blood came from a deep scalp wound supposed to have resulted from the fall. The physicians think that death was probably due to heart failure. The injured man lived only an hour after removal to the hospital and did not regain consciousness. The funeral services will be * * *

Mr. Doe was fifty years of age, having come to California from Illinois in 1885. Nothing definite is known of his early history. His most intimate friends believed that he left a wife and several children in the East. There have been several romantic stories at times coupled with his name * * *.

One week later—news item.

Considerable surprise and interest was aroused to-day when the will of John Doe, who dropped dead on Main street last week, was made public. Mr. Doe's estate was worth \$50,000, most of which is real property in this county. The terms of the will provide that the property shall be divided equally between Sarah Doe, his wife, and Richard Doe,

his son; it being further provided that in the event of Sarah Doe's death the entire property shall pass to Richard Doe. Attorney John Henry is named as administrator, and is endeavoring to locate the whereabouts of the wife and son. As stated last week, Mr. Doe never confided to the public his married history and * * *.

* American Statistical Association, Vol. XI, New Series, No. 87, p. 543, Prof. A. A. Young, California Vital Statistics.

Six months later—more head lines.

"THE ESTATE OF JOHN DOE IS STILL IN
THE COURTS—RICHARD DOE
HUNTS JOB."

Richard Doe, the young man who recently came here from Illinois to claim his father's estate valued at \$50,000, was given a job yesterday as a teamster on his own ranch, by Attorney John Henry. Young Doe has been unable to produce complete evidence thus far that he is the son of the deceased John Doe. There is also some hitch about proving that his mother is dead. She is known to have been ill in the Adams County Hospital, Michigan, in 1898. Young Doe has a letter written for his mother at that time stating that she was dying from cancer, but no death certificate was ever filed.

Attorney John Henry states that he has no question in his own mind as to the right of the young man to the property, but that he can not surrender the estate without either the birth certificate of the boy or the death certificate of the mother. A marriage certificate for John Doe and Sarah Roe was filed in 1883 in Jackson-

ville, Illinois, but the age given for the husband does not agree with local records of John Doe's age and there is no other evidence of his ever having been married.

As a climax to the legal difficulties in this unfortunate case, the insurance companies in which Doe, Sr., invested heavily last year refuse to pay the policies, on the ground that within one year the man had been examined by four physicians with special care—the policies having been large, aggregating some \$50,000—and that no disease of the heart or other organ was present at that time. It is claimed that the deceased must have committed suicide, thereby forfeiting his right to the insurance. The district attorney has been formally requested to investigate the case. As there was no autopsy and the body was subsequently cremated, the investigation proves likely to be a long and costly one. This is especially to be regretted, as a number of our merchants and the bank were heavy creditors of Mr. Doe and had counted on the security of these policies. * * *

This is a hypothetical case, but it is typical of innumerable cases that make news for the papers and expense for the taxpayer, in addition to causing injustice and disappointment for the individuals personally concerned. It is not likely that John Doe and his wife or the attending physician thought anything about the certificate of birth which would be needed twenty-four years later to ensure the child his heritage. The failure of the county hospital superintendent to record Sarah Doe's death seemed unimportant at the time, compared with other pressing duties, but this death record came to be equivalent to a check for \$25,000 to her son ten years later. The failure of the physician or the coroner to demand an autopsy on the body of John Doe prior to his cremation threw the county into an expensive legal investigation of the cause of death, and caused the local merchants to lose the \$30,000 credit-advances made Mr. Doe, Sr.

The following clipping is taken from a San Francisco paper for October, 1909:

"FORTUNE AWAITS PIONEER'S HEIRS.

*Dying Childless, _____ Leaves
\$50,000 for Relatives to be Located.*

_____, _____, A snug fortune of \$50,000 awaits relatives of _____, a California pioneer whose death occurred at _____, when they shall establish their identity. _____ died childless and alone. His will, which was filed for probate to-day by Attorney _____, left his estate to his nearest of kin, their standing to be determined by the laws of

the State. _____ said that _____ was supposed to have a nephew somewhere in this State, but no other relatives were known.

_____ was an engineer employed in the construction of the first railroad lines across the Sierra mountains. He was identified with some of the most famous exploits of the daring pioneers, working with a transit in the wilderness while exposed to danger from hostile Indians and the elements. He retired many years ago with a competence, and though long in bad health, was a familiar figure about the streets of _____."

Will Vital Statistics form a part of the evidence necessary to locate this nephew or to prove his identity?

The following letters show other phases of the application of Vital Statistics to the business affairs of the nation:

"SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 23/09.

DEAR SIR

"My wife and daughter went to Finland a year ago & now wish to return but the Authorities there will not let my daughter leave there or issue a Pass Port to her untill she can produce a certificate of Birth, proving that she is born here. So will you please send me a Certificate of Birth, her name is 'Lilli _____,' Born Nov. 15th 1904 San Francisco Cali. Our records in this city having been destroyed in the Big Fire."

Lauri _____

_____ Sutter St. (room _____)
San Francisco Cali."

"CALIFORNIA
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
SACRAMENTO

August 28, 1909.

Lauri _____,
_____ Sutter St., San Francisco, California.

DEAR SIR:

I have your letter of the 23d inst., relative to a birth certificate for your daughter. I am very sorry to inform you that we have no record of your daughter's birth on file in this office. It is only since July, 1905, when the present registration law went into effect, that such records have been filed in this office. We have a few incomplete reports of births prior to 1905, but a thorough search of these fails to reveal such certificate.

I have searched through the files of newspapers in the State Library from November 15th to the middle of December, 1904, for the published report of the birth, but have failed to find it in "The Examiner," "Call," or "Chronicle." The newspaper records will be accepted in courts in this country and probably would be by the government of Finland if such record could be found.

I regret that I am unable to furnish you with the certificate you require, and can suggest no way in which you could procure this, unless you can locate the doctor who attended the case and ask him to issue another certificate. Of course the law does not require the registrars to accept certificates prior to 1905, but if you explain the case to _____, with whom the certificate should be filed, he might be willing to accept it upon the affidavit of the attending physician and issue you a certified copy.

Very truly yours,

_____,
Secretary."

"_____

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Oct. 11th, 1909.

To the Secretary of the State Board of Health,
Sacramento, California.

DEAR SIR: My client, Yow San, the father of Chan Toy, desires to have a certificate of birth for his son who was born on the 9th day of January, A. D. 1906, at about the hour of 2:30 in the afternoon at number 26½ _____ street in San Francisco. As you know, the records of the San Francisco Board of Health were destroyed in the fire, and the child's mother, Moy Yen, has since died. Kindly advise me whether you can furnish such certificate, and what the charges will be.

Your very truly,

F. V. _____,
Attorney."

"CALIFORNIA
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
SACRAMENTO

Oct. 14th, 1909.

F. V. _____, Att'y,
_____ San Francisco, California.

DEAR SIR:

In reply to yours of the 11th inst., will say that we have had the records of this office searched and can find no certificate of birth for Chan Toy.

Very truly yours,

_____,
Secretary."

It is only necessary to read between the lines of such letters to understand with what anxiety the parents await the reply of the State Board of Health.

What may there be behind the following letter? Tragedy? Comedy? Curiosity? Blackmail? Legal business?

“_____ Oct. 8, 1909.

The State Registrar,

DEAR SIR:

On or about July 10, 1906, John Henry Roe secured a marriage license at San Jose to marry one Susan Jane Doe. Will you kindly inform me whether Mr. Roe stated that he was a divorced man or single, at that time, and what information you have in that respect?

Respectfully,

_____,
Attorney.”

“Oct. 9th, 1909.

_____, Esq.,
San Francisco, Cal.

DEAR SIR:

The marriage certificate of John Henry Roe and Susan Jane Doe states that Mr. Roe was single at the time of this marriage and that this was his first marriage.

Very truly yours,

_____,
Secretary.”

The following death certificate provides interesting speculation as to the legal expenses and complications avoided by a physician's prompt attention to the details of a signed diagnosis:

“_____ Oct. 6, 1909.

Secretary, State Board of Health.

DEAR SIR:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the death certificate of Walter _____ of this place. Since the death of Mr. _____ the attending physician, Dr. _____, has also died. I need two copies of this certificate, certified by yourself, to submit to life insurance companies in lieu of the attending physician's report or statement as to the facts and causes of death.

I will remit the required fee of fifty cents for each copy on receipt of bill.

Respectfully,

_____,
Executor, Estate of Walter _____.

The following letter tells its own story:

“_____, September 29, 1909.

* * * Mr. Moses _____, of _____, Massachusetts some twenty years ago came out to California to live. But little was ever known of him after coming here. However that he lived in Oakland and also in San Leandro for a period of six years about 1901 is known.

A year ago news returned east that Mr. _____ was a victim of the San Francisco fire at the time of the earthquake, yet no definite information could be obtained.

Mr. _____ was a Frenchman, and by trade a carpenter. Relatives are anxious to know whether or not he is living.

I have been in correspondence with the French Consulate at San Francisco and also with the Health Department at Oakland, but so far have been unable to ascertain any information. * * *

It remained for the coroner of Contra Costa County to answer the question in the New England farmhouse.

The *Contra Costa Gazette* for _____, 1908, had the following:

“FUNERAL.

The funeral of Mose _____ who fell dead on Main street Wednesday morning will be held Sunday at 2 p. m. from _____ Undertaking Parlors. Interment will be in St. Catherine cemetery.

The public paused a moment that afternoon to wonder who the stranger might have been, then moved on to the world's work. The coroner filed a record with the State Board of Health that a man known as Mose _____, about 55 years of age, married, a Canadian, and carpenter by trade, had died of heart failure.

It was vitally important to the State of California that this meager record be carefully verified and placed on permanent file, not because this man might have been a factor in the general affairs of the State, but because the failure to record this death would indicate the possibility of likewise failing to record other deaths of far-reaching importance.

Accurate Vital Statistics are dependent upon three things:

(1) A competent Secretary of the State Board of Health, with an adequate staff of trained statisticians whose hearts are in their work.

(2) The active coöperation of physicians, undertakers, and ministers in accurately filling out the necessary record blanks.

(3) The prompt and cheerful compliance of citizens in furnishing the information required of them.

California has an excellent beginning in all these essentials, but it is thus far only a beginning. The opportunity afforded through the expert study of Vital Statistics to prevent the coming generation from repeating the errors of their ancestors is as yet only dimly realized by even the foremost of our thinking business men and women.

THE PUBLIC DUTIES OF THE CITIZEN AND THE DOCTOR.

WILLIAM F. SNOW.

The law says that the State Board of Health shall maintain a Bureau of Vital Statistics for the complete and proper registration of births, marriages, and deaths*. It devolves upon the State Board and its executive officer, the Secretary, to carry out the will of the people expressed in this law. The law is a wise one, but it has not occurred to the majority of the people that they as well as the State Board of Health have an important duty to perform†, if California is to fully reap its benefits.

In accordance with the instructions of the law, the State Board of Health has developed a uniform system of obtaining and recording the necessary data. Every question on the birth, marriage and death certificates has been given a place only after experience has shown the need for it. The following are some of the frequent errors and omissions which make the records of little or no legal or other value:

1. Birth Certificate No. —, filed January 31, 1908, with the Local Registrar at Berkeley and forwarded to the State Board for permanent record, shows the child to have been a white female born December 27, 1907, but the doctor's affidavit on this certificate gives the date of birth as December 17th. No name is given for the child. Subsequently the mother sent in a supplemental report of birth naming the child, changing the sex to male, and giving December 21, 1907, as the date of birth.

* The bureau is directed to collect these records for "legal, sanitary, and statistical purposes." It is made the duty of the secretary "to promulgate and enforce all necessary regulations that may be required to carry out the provisions" of the law.

† The secretary is required to "carefully examine the certificates * * * received monthly from the local registrars * * * and if any are incomplete or unsatisfactory he shall require such further information to be furnished as may be necessary to make the record satisfactory." For marriages or births "all physicians, clergymen, judges, midwives, nurses, parents * * * and all other persons having knowledge of the facts are required to furnish such information as they possess * * *." For deaths "all physicians, informants, or undertakers connected with the case, and all other persons having knowledge of the facts" are required to furnish information upon demand of the secretary of the State Board, in person, by mail, or through the local registrar.

2. Birth Certificate No. — from Los Angeles was filed September 22, 1909, with Local Registrar and forwarded for permanent record. No name is given for the child, and the sex and color are omitted. The number of this child is given as third, with two children now living. Without additional information it would be impossible for this child to prove legally that he (or she?) is living. Just such errors have served innumerable adventurers in their efforts to defeat law and justice.

3. Many partial records of illegitimate births are filed; but Birth Certificate No. — from San Francisco gives full details as to the parents and would seem to be legitimate, but the date of birth of the child is not given, and the question "Legitimate?" is unanswered. The residence of the father is given as Cleveland, Ohio, while that of the mother is Mission street, San Francisco. Two years have now gone by and the State's record is still valueless to this growing baby.

4. Birth Certificate No. — is a complete record except that all mention of "color or race" is avoided for the parents or the child. The birthplace of the parents is given as Greensborough, Alabama. If these omissions were accidental it is unfortunate. If permitted by the attending physician to conceal a mulatto history, the certificate is conspicuously suggestive of this very probability.

5. Birth Certificate No. — is properly filled out with the exception of the ages of the parents. A note by the Local Registrar states that "the physician refuses to get the ages of the parents."

6. Birth Certificate No. — has no mention of an attending physician or midwife.

These are but types of the many combinations of errors in birth-records which may at any time become of the gravest importance in the life and prosperity of our commonwealth. The marriage and death returns each month show the same lack of appreciation of accurate records on the part of the professional and lay public.

The State Board of Health is charged with the final responsibility for completing these records. To one accustomed to obtaining supplementary information from the public on any question, it will be apparent that the office work and correspondence required in examining and completing approximately 7,500 birth, marriage, and death certificates each month must be enormous. In just so far as each physician and citizen does his share conscientiously and well in the beginning, he saves both himself and the local registrars many subsequent difficulties.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MORBIDITY STATISTICS.

WILLIAM F. SNOW.

The dictionary says morbidity means "the sick-rate," as contrasted with mortality, meaning "the death-rate." No one will question the desirability of our health officials being informed of the sick-rate for those diseases which may be spread from one person to another. For example, it is relatively more important for us to know at the outset that a certain child has scarlet fever than that we should be able to read the correct diagnosis on the death certificate at the end of the illness. And yet the most generally disregarded health regulation is the complete and prompt reporting of all communicable diseases. This is so for a number of reasons which often seem valid to individuals in a given time

and place, but do not stand analysis. Among these reasons are: (1) The desire to avoid quarantine or publicity. (2) Doubt as to the diagnosis. (3) Belief that every one has already been exposed. (4) Belief that every one ought to have the contagious diseases and "get them over with." (5) Indifference. (6) Ignorance. (7) Some form of faith-healing belief. (8) Inefficient health departments, which are unable to make use of such information when reported. (9) Failure to enforce the penalties of the law for inattention to its provisions. (10) The most important—Public Opinion has not yet declared in favor of rigid enforcement of the law.

The time will come when citizens will sue a city for damages resulting from typhoid fever, scarlet fever, or other preventable diseases, concerning which the city gave no warning, just as they now sue for damages resulting from a fall into a city excavation over which no warning lights were placed. The one is just as logical as the other, but in general far more serious in its consequences to the victim.

City governments do not realize as yet that from a health point of view the city is as large as its contributing territory. San Francisco's milk supply makes the health conditions of thirteen counties of vital interest to her citizens. Los Angeles' climate makes the traveling-sick of the world a matter of deep concern to her citizens. The great irrigation projects of the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys link the fast-growing lowland cities in a common interest in fighting water- and mosquito-borne diseases. Increasing commerce with the Orient and South America is slowly but inevitably compelling the entire State to prepare for a battle with the "tropical" diseases. The following extracts from letters received during the month may be given as illustrations of these facts:

"In reply to your letter concerning the death of ——— from liver abscess * * * the patient was born in Mexico city and lived there for 25 years, coming to El Paso ten years ago, where he remained 3 years,—San Antonio, 3 years, then to California 4 years ago. Has always been a laborer on the railroads; was exposed to a great deal of wet weather. He dates his present illness to 3 weeks ago. Diagnosis and autopsy both proved his case to be one of tropical (amœbic) dysentery."

How long this laborer may have had this disease and what communities he may have endangered is a matter for speculation.

"In reply to your letter of the 6th inst., concerning the death certificate signed by me for ———, who died of typhoid fever (Fresno city). I find that he was a farming laborer and that he contracted the disease while working in Walnut Grove (Sacramento County), but for whom he was working I could not ascertain. I have at present 3 cases of typhoid fever under treatment in my hospital, Mrs. ——— of Reedley, Mr. ——— of Minturn (Madera County), and Mr. ——— of Tarpey."

This physician and his four patients in a Fresno city hospital were possessed of information of great importance to the citizens of four distant communities—two in Fresno County, one in Madera County on the border of Merced, and one on the lower Sacramento River and accordingly of vital interest to the whole San Francisco fruit-consuming public.

"In reply to your letter of Oct. 7th, I beg to say that the case came to me [Oakland] from Wheatland. The boy had been sick there for four weeks with what he supposed was malaria. He advised me that there were a great number of employees in the hop-fields who were suffering in the same manner that he was. I have no other cases, nor have I had for some months."

This case should have been reported immediately to the Health Officer for Wheatland or the Health Officer for Yuba County, but with the constantly changing personnel of the city and county health officials, the State Board of Health must necessarily become the medium of communication in all such matters. For this reason the State law requires all communicable diseases to be promptly reported to the Secretary of the State Board of Health.

"I would say that I first saw her (in Oakland) on August 17, 1909, and suspected typhoid. She told me then that she had been working in the Cannery, and lived at the Camp, where there were said to be three or four cases of typhoid fever."

The workers in this cannery represented many communities in the vicinity of the San Francisco Bay. It is largely through such cases as this one that typhoid fever is carried into insanitary cities and towns in all parts of the State.

The day has passed when our lack of scientific knowledge permits us to say such things are the divine will of Providence.

BIRTH REGISTRATION IN CALIFORNIA.

GEORGE D. LESLIE.

Some idea of the completeness, or incompleteness, of birth registration in California is found by comparing the birth and death totals, exclusive of stillbirths in each case. Comparative figures appear in the table below, the birth total for each year necessarily including some late returns for the preceding year.

Births and Deaths, for California: 1906-1909.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Apparent Excess of Deaths Over Births.	
			Number.	Per Cent.
1909* -----	22,415	22,716	301	1.3
1908 -----	28,077	31,287	3,210	11.4
1907 -----	24,674	31,095	6,421	26.0
1906 -----	20,974	29,303	8,329	39.7

* January-September, inclusive.

These figures show that there has been a marked improvement in the completeness with which births are registered in California. The apparent excess of deaths over births, which is really a measure of the deficiency in birth registration, fell successively from 39.7 per cent for 1906 to 26.0 per cent for 1907, 11.4 for 1908, and only 1.3 for January-September, 1909.

Birth registration is more complete in freeholders' charter cities, where the City Health Officers are Local Registrars, than in the rural districts, where County Recorders are responsible for the registration of births, City Health Officers being in closer touch with their fellow physicians than County Recorders can be expected to be with physicians in scattered places. The following table shows the contrast between city and country districts.

Births and Deaths, for Cities and Rest of State: 1906-1909.

Population Group and Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Numerical Excess of—	
			Births.	Deaths.
<i>Freeholders' charter cities.</i>				
1909* -----	13,914	12,781	1,133	-----
1908 -----	17,586	17,480	106	-----
1907 -----	15,786	18,281	-----	2,495
1906 -----	12,654	17,130	-----	4,476
<i>Rest of State.</i>				
1909* -----	8,501	9,935	-----	1,434
1908 -----	10,491	13,807	-----	3,316
1907 -----	8,888	12,814	-----	3,926
1906 -----	8,320	12,173	-----	3,853

* January-September, inclusive.

It appears from this table that the excess of deaths over births was relatively greater for the rural districts than for the chartered cities in 1906 and 1907 and, moreover, that while deaths still outnumber the births registered in country districts yet in cities the birth total has come to exceed the death total by 106 for 1908 and by no less than 1,133 for the first nine months of 1909.

From the returns so far received for 1909 it appears that as many as fifteen of the twenty-six freeholders' charter cities show a birth registration which exceeds the death total. The figures are as follows:

Births and Deaths, for Cities in Decreasing Order of Birth Registration: January-September, 1909.

City.	Births.	Deaths.	Numerical Excess of—	
			Births.	Deaths.
San Francisco -----	4,950	4,528	422	-----
Los Angeles -----	3,341	2,993	348	-----
Oakland -----	1,530	1,202	328	-----
Berkeley -----	439	305	134	-----
Fresno -----	312	191	121	-----
Alameda -----	297	224	73	-----
San Jose -----	340	279	61	-----
Eureka -----	180	131	49	-----
Riverside -----	191	167	24	-----
Santa Rosa -----	103	79	24	-----
Napa -----	70	50	20	-----
Palo Alto* -----	35	23	12	-----
Pasadena -----	312	303	9	-----
Grass Valley -----	52	45	7	-----
Vallejo -----	138	133	5	-----
<i>26 Freeholders' charter cities</i> -----	<i>13,914</i>	<i>12,781</i>	<i>1,133</i>	-----
Salinas -----	46	53	-----	7
Watsonville -----	75	84	-----	9
Richmond† -----	16	26	-----	10
Santa Barbara -----	140	150	-----	10
Santa Monica -----	63	75	-----	12
Long Beach -----	151	173	-----	22
Santa Cruz -----	107	141	-----	34
San Bernardino -----	138	183	-----	45
San Diego -----	349	424	-----	75
Stockton -----	201	330	-----	129
Sacramento -----	338	489	-----	151

* April-September, inclusive.

† July-September, inclusive.

The fifteen cities reporting more births than deaths in 1909 are, in decreasing order of the numerical excess: San Francisco, Los Angeles, Oakland, Berkeley, Fresno, Alameda, San Jose, Eureka, Riverside, Santa Rosa, Napa, Palo Alto, Pasadena, Grass Valley, and Vallejo.

Eleven cities have so far reported fewer births than deaths for 1909, the cities being as follows: Salinas, Watsonville, Richmond, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, Long Beach, Santa Cruz, San Bernardino, San Diego, Stockton, and Sacramento. However, the apparent deficiency of birth registration is so slight as to be easily overcome in the remainder of the year for some of those cities, especially those first named.

COMMENTS.

USING THE DEAD TO PROTECT THE LIVING.

It often happens that the State Board of Health gets its first information concerning an epidemic through the filing of the death certificate of an early victim. As illustrated by letters quoted in the article on morbidity statistics, this information frequently concerns some community a hundred miles or more away from the place where the death occurred and is the means of starting an investigation which saves many lives. But useful as this method of utilizing death returns may be made it should be only a check-system on the immediate reporting of all communicable diseases at the *beginning* rather than at the end of the illness.

The State Board of Health, with its machinery for correspondence and investigation and its laboratory equipment, should serve as a public health exchange for the many City and County Boards of Health, and as a bureau of accurate information for the general public.

THE MARVELOUS INCREASE IN CALIFORNIA'S BIRTHS SINCE 1906.

Each month the Bulletin contains the record of the births, marriages, and deaths filed in this office for the previous month. Each month the California newspapers compare the births and deaths for their respective localities and comment upon the struggle between the Stork and the Reaper. State Statistician Leslie's interesting article in this issue of the Bulletin should especially interest the readers of these monthly articles of the journalists. As a matter of fact the Stork has never had full credit. If any one will take the time to run over the files of his county's newspapers and compare the listed births with the State Board of Health record, he will discover the uncomfortable fact that the State's record is incomplete. The number of "proud parents" and busy doctors who fail in their important duty of recording the births of California's native sons and daughters may be checked in this and other ways.

The State Board of Health is charged with the protection of the rights of the child in these matters and is given the necessary authority to enforce its regulations. How far it may be necessary for the Board to exercise this power rests with the parents and the physicians and midwives of California.

THE FAMILY BIBLE.

One of the most productive sources of delay in filing birth and death certificates is the lack of such information as the name, age, birthplace, etc., of parents and grandparents. In these, as in other matters, "the family Bible" is a valuable source of information.

At first thought it would seem a simple task to fill out a death certificate, and yet it is not common to find a man who can write down off-hand the full names of his maternal grandparents, the place of birth or maiden name of his wife's mother, or answer a host of other questions concerning various relatives for which he may be called upon to act as informant.

No thoughtful person will deny the great value of this information in studying the nation's growth, or as a foundation for intelligent immigration laws, or to be used in innumerable other ways which will readily occur to any one.

THE BUBONIC PLAGUE BULLETIN.

The State Board has planned to devote the November number of the Bulletin to the Bubonic Plague. The Federal Government is doing a generous thing for California in investigating the rodent plague in the State. Not only is this work making it possible to warn residents in the infected areas of the possible danger of contracting the disease, but the original work being done may lead to scientific deductions that will go far towards solving the riddles of plague epidemics.

DEPARTMENT OF VITAL STATISTICS.

GEORGE D. LESLIE, STATISTICIAN.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER.

Marriages.—The marriages reported for September number 2,083, as compared with 1,889 for the same month last year. For an estimated State population of 2,037,929, the September total represents an annual rate of 12.4, against 10.9 for August.

The September totals were highest for the following counties: Los Angeles, 460; San Francisco, 400; Alameda, 222; Santa Clara, 86; Orange, 73; San Diego, 71; Sacramento, 67; Marin, 62; Fresno, 56; and San Joaquin, 50.

The aggregate for San Francisco and the other bay counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, and San Mateo) was 730.

Births.—For September there were reported 2,710 living births, representing an annual birth-rate of 16.2, as compared with 15.2 for the preceding month. The total for the corresponding month last year was 2,340.

The totals were highest for the following counties: Los Angeles, 635; San Francisco, 579; Alameda, 296; Santa Clara, 111; Fresno, 104; San Joaquin, 65; San Bernardino, 58; Sacramento, 55; San Diego, 54; and Tulare, 50.

Altogether 1,681 births were registered in the twenty-six freeholders' charter cities, the leading cities being as follows: San Francisco, 579; Los Angeles, 432; Oakland, 183; Pasadena, 48; San Diego, 40; Santa Barbara, 39; Berkeley and San Jose, each 36; Sacramento, 34; Fresno, 33; Alameda, 32; Stockton, 29; and Riverside, 25.

The aggregate for San Francisco and the transbay cities (Alameda, Berkeley, and Oakland) was 830, and for San Francisco and the other bay counties was 945. Similarly, the total for Los Angeles and neighboring chartered cities (Long Beach, Pasadena, and Santa Monica) was 504, and for the entire county was 635.

Deaths.—Exclusive of stillbirths, altogether 2,353 deaths were reported for September, this number including 209 delayed certificates for deaths in August or earlier months. The 2,353 deaths give an annual death-rate of 14.0 for September, against 13.5 for the month before. The corresponding total for the same month last year was 2,369.

The September death totals were highest for the following counties: Los Angeles, 464; San Francisco, 425; Alameda, 249; Sacramento, 114; San Joaquin, 84; Fresno, 70; Santa Clara, 69; San Diego, 61; and San Bernardino, 59.

There were altogether 1,297 deaths in the twenty-six freeholders' charter cities, the highest totals being as follows: San Francisco, 425; Los Angeles, 305; Oakland, 137; Sacramento, 53; San Diego, 48; Stockton, 36; Berkeley, 35; Alameda, 28; and San Jose, 26.

The aggregate for the urban district (San Francisco and the trans-bay cities) was 625, and for the entire metropolitan area (San Francisco and the other bay counties) was 743. Similarly, the total for Los Angeles and neighboring chartered cities was 349, and for the whole county was 464.

Causes of Death.—For September there were reported 370 deaths, or 15.7 per cent of all, from diseases of the circulatory system, and 327, or 13.9 per cent, from various forms of tuberculosis, heart disease thus leading tuberculosis as in previous months.

Other notable causes of death for September were: violence, 289; diseases of the digestive system, 285; diseases of the nervous system, 201; diseases of the respiratory system, 144; cancer, 139; epidemic diseases, 139; and Bright's disease and nephritis, 134.

Typhoid fever, as usual, led among epidemic diseases with 58 deaths, against 28 for malarial fever, 24 for whooping-cough, 10 for diphtheria and croup, and 19 for all other epidemic diseases.

The 58 deaths from typhoid fever occurred in the following counties: San Bernardino, 7; Los Angeles, 6; Alameda and San Francisco, each 5; Sacramento, 4; Butte and Santa Barbara, each 3; Fresno, Kern, Kings, Riverside, San Joaquin, and Tehama, each 2; and Colusa, Contra Costa, Modoc, Monterey, Placer, Plumas, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Siskiyou, Stanislaus, Trinity, and Yuba, 1 each.

Further particulars appear in the following table:

Deaths from Certain Principal Causes, with Proportion per 1,000 Total Deaths for Current and Preceding Month, for California: September.

Cause of Death.	Deaths: September.	Proportion per 1,000.	
		September.	August.
ALL CAUSES.....	2,353	1,000.0	1,000.0
Typhoid fever.....	58	24.6	20.9
Malarial fever.....	28	11.9	6.0
Smallpox.....			0.8
Measles.....	5	2.1	1.3
Scarlet fever.....	6	2.5	0.4
Whooping-cough.....	24	10.2	9.8
Diphtheria and croup.....	10	4.2	6.4
Influenza.....			1.3
Plague.....			0.4
Other epidemic diseases.....	8	3.4	5.1
Tuberculosis of lungs.....	284	120.7	111.6
Tuberculosis of other organs.....	43	18.3	20.1
Cancer.....	139	59.1	68.4
Other general diseases.....	86	36.6	34.6
Meningitis.....	27	11.5	11.5
Other diseases of nervous system.....	174	74.0	84.6
Diseases of circulatory system.....	370	157.2	144.4
Pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia.....	94	40.0	37.6
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	50	21.2	20.5
Diarrhea and enteritis, under 2 years.....	117	49.7	47.0
Diarrhea and enteritis, 2 years and over.....	34	14.4	6.8
Other diseases of digestive system.....	134	57.0	53.9
Bright's disease and nephritis.....	134	57.0	65.0
Childbirth.....	24	10.2	6.0
Diseases of early infancy.....	83	35.3	38.0
Suicide.....	45	19.1	27.4
Other violence.....	244	103.7	111.2
All other causes.....	132	56.1	59.0

Geographic Divisions.—Data for geographic divisions, including the metropolitan area, or “Greater San Francisco,” are as follows:

Deaths from Main Classes of Diseases, for Geographic Divisions: September.

Geographic Division.	DEATHS: SEPTEMBER.										
	All Causes	Epidemic Diseases	Tuberculosis (All Forms)	Cancer	Diseases of Nervous System	Diseases of Circulatory System	Diseases of Respiratory System	Diseases of Digestive System	Bright's Disease and Nephritis	Violence	All Other Causes
THE STATE	2,353	139	327	139	201	370	144	285	134	289	325
Northern California	320	25	25	11	44	56	19	46	8	54	32
Coast counties	144	4	12	5	31	31	9	21	4	16	11
Interior counties	176	21	13	6	13	25	10	25	4	38	21
Central California	1,333	76	171	87	90	236	89	154	92	159	179
San Francisco	425	14	53	35	27	88	34	50	25	38	61
Other bay counties	318	22	42	17	15	56	22	43	24	41	36
Coast counties	145	6	20	11	12	32	7	16	8	17	16
Interior counties	445	34	56	24	36	60	26	45	35	63	66
Southern California	700	38	131	41	67	78	36	85	34	76	114
Los Angeles	464	23	90	30	48	49	23	53	25	49	74
Other counties	236	15	41	11	19	29	13	32	9	27	40
Northern and Central California	1,653	101	196	98	134	292	108	200	100	213	211
Metropolitan area	743	36	95	52	42	144	56	93	49	79	97
Rural counties	910	65	101	46	92	148	52	107	51	134	114

DEPARTMENT OF BACTERIOLOGY.

DR. A. R. WARD, DIRECTOR.

EXAMINATIONS MADE DURING SEPTEMBER, 1909.

	Ex.-Pos.	Ex.-Neg.	Total.
Diphtheria	3	36	39
Malaria	—	6	6
Tuberculosis	1	12	13
Typhoid	1	12	13
Water	—	—	17
Miscellaneous	—	—	6
Total			94

DEPARTMENT OF PURE FOODS AND DRUGS.

PROFESSOR M. E. JAFFA, DIRECTOR.

The work of the Laboratory during the past month has been devoted to the analyses of a large number of miscellaneous samples, including vinegars, teas, mustards, meats, extracts, etc.

Reports from the inspectors in the field would seem to indicate that there is a general desire on the part of the merchants and dealers to label all their merchandise in accordance with the law and regulations of the State Board of Health.

It is to be hoped in the near future that some time of the Laboratory may be devoted to research work. Food Inspection Decision 110, here reprinted, is of interest to all dealers of such foods in the State.

The Notices of Judgments, numbers 90 to 101, have been received from the United States Department of Agriculture and as they are all of value to the commercial interests of the State, the facts of the case in each instance are given. The complete Notice of Judgment can be had by applying to the Director of the State Food and Drug Laboratory, Berkeley, California.

No. 96 is of special interest as it is an illustration of certain practices which the Government, both state and national, is trying to stop.

No. 101 is another interesting case. There have been on sale in this State considerable grain mixtures labeled so as to deceive and mislead the purchaser into the belief that there is only one grain in the mixture, whereas it is a mixture of grain as stated on the label and some others of inferior value.

FOOD INSPECTION DECISION 110.

SHELLFISH.

The Department has investigated the preparation and shipment of oysters, clams, and other shellfish. A public hearing on this subject was held by the Board of Food and Drug Inspection on May 20, 1909. At this hearing, growers, packers, dealers, and the public were afforded an opportunity to be heard.

It is unlawful to ship or to sell in interstate commerce oysters or other shellfish taken from insanitary or polluted beds. The pollution of oysters with sewage can readily be detected by bacteriological examination, and such polluted oysters or other shellfish are adulterated under section 7 of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, in that they contain an added "poisonous or other added deleterious ingredient which may render such article injurious to health."

Such articles are likewise adulterated under section 7, in the case of foods because they consist "in whole or in part of a filthy, decomposed, or putrid animal or vegetable substance."

It is unlawful to ship or to sell in interstate commerce oysters or other shellfish which have become polluted because of packing under insanitary conditions or being placed in unclean receptacles. In order to prevent pollution during the packing or shipment of oysters, it is necessary to give proper attention to the sanitary condition of the establishment in which they are packed and to use only receptacles which have been thoroughly cleansed as soon as emptied. In order to prevent the possibility of contamination, it is desirable that such containers be sterilized before using.

It is unlawful to ship or to sell in interstate commerce oysters or other shellfish which have been subjected to "floating" or "drinking" in brackish water, or water containing less salt than that in which they are grown. Such food is adulterated

under section 7 of the law because a substance "has been mixed and packed with it so as to reduce or lower or injuriously affect its quality or strength." There can be no objection to "drinking" shellfish in unpolluted water of the same salt content as that from which they have been removed. Attention is called, however, to the dangers resulting from "drinking" shellfish near polluted fresh water streams and near other sources of pollution.

It is unlawful to ship or to sell in interstate commerce shucked oysters to which water has been added, either directly or in the form of melted ice. Such food is adulterated under section 7 of the act because a "substance has been mixed and packed with it so as to reduce or lower or injuriously affect its quality or strength," and also because a "substance has been substituted wholly or in part for the article."

The packing of shellfish with ice in contact may lead to the absorption by the oyster of a portion of the water formed by the melting ice, thus leading to the adulteration of the oysters with water.

Only unpolluted cold or iced water should be employed in washing shucked shellfish, and the washing, including chilling, should not continue longer than the minimum time necessary for cleaning and chilling.

In view of the fact that the shipping season has begun and shippers will require several months to provide themselves with suitable containers for the shipment of shellfish out of contact with ice, no prosecutions will be recommended prior to May 1, 1910, for the shipment or sale in interstate commerce of oysters or other shellfish because of the addition of water caused solely by shipment in contact with ice.

NOTICE OF JUDGMENT.

No. 90. *Misbranding of Canned Peas.* (Underweight.)

The facts in the case were as follows:

On or about January 29, 1909, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture located in the possession of J. F. Humphreys & Co., Bloomington, Ill., 150 cases (each containing 24 cans) of peas labeled "2 doz. 2 lb. Sweet Wisconsin Brand Marrowfat Peas, The Reynolds Preserving Company, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin," and 150 cases (each containing 24 cans) of peas labeled "2 doz. 2 lb. Sweet Wisconsin Brand Telephone Peas, The Reynolds Preserving Company, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin." A representative number of the cans was weighed by the inspector, and the average gross weight of each can was found to be 25 ounces.

The facts were reported by the Secretary of Agriculture to the United States attorney for the southern district of Illinois, and a libel for seizure and condemnation was duly filed, with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 91. *Misbranding of Lemon, Raspberry, and Strawberry Extracts.*

The facts in the cases were as follows:

On October 31, 1907, an inspector of the United States Department of Agriculture purchased from W. A. Sprague, Nampa, Idaho, a sample of an article of food labeled, "Pine Bur Flavoring Extract, Lemon, Dwight-Edwards Co., Portland, Oregon." This sample was part of a shipment made by the Dwight-Edwards Company from Portland, Oregon, to W. A. Sprague, Nampa, Idaho, on September 20, 1907. The sample was subjected to analysis in the Bureau of Chemistry, United States Department of Agriculture, and it was found that it contained only 1.62 per cent of oil of lemon, 3.38 per cent less than the normal and recognized lemon extract.

It was apparent that it was not lemon extract, and the statement in the label was therefore false, misleading, and deceptive.

On September 25, 1907, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture purchased from Worden's Grocery, Missoula, Montana, two samples of food products, one of which was labeled, "2 Ounces. Full Weight. Edwards' Dependable Pure Extract Strawberry. Dwight-Edwards Company, Portland, Oregon," and the other, "2 Ounces. Full Weight. Edwards' Dependable Pure Extract Raspberry. Dwight-Edwards Company, Portland, Oregon." These two samples were a part of a shipment made by the Dwight-Edwards Company from Portland, Oregon, to Worden's Grocery, Missoula, Montana, on June 18, 1907. Each of the samples was analyzed in the Bureau of Chemistry, United States Department of Agriculture, and was found to be an imitation flavor, artificially colored. The statements in the labels were therefore false, misleading, and deceptive.

The Secretary of Agriculture having afforded the Dwight-Edwards Company opportunity to show any fault or error in the aforesaid analyses, and it having failed to do so, the facts were duly reported to the Attorney General, and by him referred to the United States attorney for the district of Oregon, who filed an information against the said Dwight-Edwards Company, with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 92. *Misbranding of Canned Peaches, Plums, Pears, and Apricots.*

(Underweight.)

The facts in the case were as follows:

On or about January 27, 1909, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture found in the possession of the Witwer Brothers Company, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 150 cases of canned fruit, each case containing 24 cans, labeled as above stated. The goods had been shipped by the California Canneries Company of San Francisco, Cal., to the Witwer Brothers Company, on or about September 1, 1908. A representative number of the cans was weighed by the inspector and the average gross weight of each can was found to be only 34 ounces. The statement on the label of the case that the weight of each can was $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds was therefore false, misleading, and deceptive, and the goods were misbranded within the meaning of section 8 of the act. On January 27, 1909, the above facts were reported by the Secretary of Agriculture to the United States attorney for the northern district of Iowa and libel for seizure and condemnation was duly filed with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 93. *Misbranding of Beans.* (Underweight.)

The facts in the case were as follows:

On or about February 15, 1909, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture located in the possession of the Muskogee Wholesale Grocer Company, Muskogee, Okla., 63 cases of beans labeled "2 doz. 2 lb. Sun Bird Brand Cut String Beans, Reedsburg Canning Co., Reedsburg, Wis." The goods had been shipped to the said consignee at Muskogee, Okla., by the McManus Heryer Brokerage Company, Kansas City, Mo., on or about December 5, 1907. A number of the cans were weighed by the inspector and the average gross weight per can was found to be 22 ounces. The statement on the labels of the cases that the weight of each can was 2 pounds was therefore false, misleading, and deceptive, and the goods were misbranded in violation of section 8 of the act. Accordingly, on February 16, 1909, the Secretary of Agriculture reported the facts to the United States attorney for the eastern district of Oklahoma, who forthwith filed a libel for seizure and condemnation of said goods with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 94. *Misbranding of Water.* (Artificially lithiated water labeled as a natural product.)

The facts of the case were as follows:

On May 23, 1908, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture purchased from the Arlington Bottling Company, Washington, D. C., samples of water labeled "Rock Spring Lithia, Chas. Jacobsen, Sole Distributor, Washington, D. C.," and in addition there was on each label a pictorial representation of a woman drawing water from a spring. Previous to the purchase of these samples on May 23, 1908, an inspector visited the establishment of the Arlington Bottling Company and ascertained that the water contained in bottles bearing the label above set forth was manufactured in said establishment and was a distilled water artificially lithiated. It was evident that the water was misbranded in violation of section 8 of the act in that the label thereon clearly conveyed the impression that the article was a natural lithia water. Accordingly, on September 29, 1908, the facts were reported by the Secretary of Agriculture to the Attorney General and the case referred to the United States attorney for the District of Columbia, who forthwith filed an information against the said Charles Jacobsen, with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 95. *Misbranding of Canned Corn.* (Underweight.)

The facts in this case were as follows:

On or about January 30, 1909, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture found in the possession of the F. T. Gunther Grocery Company, Owensboro, Ky., 800 cases (each containing 2 dozen cans) of corn labeled "2 dozen 2 lbs. Dana's Luscious Sugar Corn, packed by the Carthage Cannery, Carthage, Ind." The corn had been shipped the F. T. Gunther Company by the Henry Coburn Storage and Warehouse Company, a corporation, of Indianapolis, Ind., for account of J. M. Paver and Company, and were invoiced by the Dana Canned Goods Company, a corporation doing business at Belpre, Ohio. A number of cans were weighed by the inspector and the average gross weight of each was found to be 23 ounces. The corn was, therefore, misbranded within the meaning of section 8 of the act, and on February 1, 1909, the facts were reported by the Secretary of Agriculture to the United States attorney for the western district of Kentucky, and libel for seizure and condemnation was duly filed with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 96. *Misbranding of a Cereal.* (As to quality and digestive properties.)

NIZARA CEREAL FOOD. Nizara is made from rice, wheat and barley malt. No sweetening or shortening. Manufactured by New England Food Co., South Nor-

walk, Connecticut. The wonderful property of Nizara is that it helps to digest other foods. It is a rich concentrated food.

The facts in the case were as follows :

On March 16, 1908, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture purchased from the Henry Siegel Company, Boston, Mass., samples of a food product labeled as above stated. The goods were a part of a shipment made by the manufacturers, the New England Food Company, South Norwalk, Conn., to Henry Siegel Company, on or about September 10, 1907. A sample of the product was subjected to analysis in the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture, and the following results obtained and stated :

Water (per cent)	3.78
Ash (per cent)	1.70
Fat (per cent)11
Protein (per cent)	12.31
Crude fiber (per cent)	1.07
Carbohydrates by difference (per cent)	81.03
Fuel value (calories per gram)	3,977.72

It was evident that the article was not a rich concentrated food, and had not the property of assisting in the digestion of other foods, and was therefore misbranded within the meaning of section 8 of the act, because the statements on the label that "Nivara is a rich concentrated food" and "a wonderful property of Nivara is that it helps to digest other foods" were false, misleading, and deceptive.

The Secretary of Agriculture having, on August 11, 1908, afforded the dealer and manufacturer a hearing, and the dealer having established a guaranty, and the manufacturers having failed to show any fault or error in the aforesaid analysis, the facts were reported on January 29, 1909, to the Attorney General, and the case referred to the United States attorney for the district of Connecticut, who filed an information against the New England Food Company, with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 97. *Misbranding of Canned Tomatoes.* (Underweight.)

The facts in the case were as follows :

On or about January 30, 1909, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture found in the possession of the Henkel-Duke Mercantile Company, Pueblo, Colo., 135 cases (each containing 24 cans) of tomatoes and labeled "2 doz. 2½ lb. Cans Tomatoes from Riverdale Canning Company, Packers of Choice Utah Tomatoes, Riverdale, Utah." These goods had been shipped to the Henkel-Duke Mercantile Company by the Riverdale Canning Company from Ogden, Utah, on October 7, 1907. A number of the cans were weighed by the inspector and the average gross weight of each was found to be 2 pounds 3 ounces. The cases were, therefore, misbranded within the meaning of section 8 of the act, and on January 30, 1909, the facts were reported by the Secretary of Agriculture to the United States attorney for the district of Colorado and libel for seizure and condemnation was duly filed with the results hereinbefore stated.

No. 98. *Adulteration and Misbranding of Syrup.* (As to presence of maple sugar.)

The facts in the case were as follows :

On March 20, 1908, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture purchased from Jas. Carson and Company, Springfield, Ohio, a sample of a syrup labeled "Belle Isle Pure Vermont Syrup. Formula, Maple Sugar 40%, Cane Sugar 60%. Put up by E. A. Charbonneau Co., Detroit, Michigan," which sample was part of a shipment made by the E. A. Charbonneau Company from Detroit, Mich., to Springfield, Ohio, on or about December 20, 1907. This sample was subjected to analysis in the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture and the following results obtained and stated :

Total solids (per cent)	67.82
Total ash (per cent)075
Water soluble ash (per cent)055
Insoluble ash (per cent)020
Alkalinity of soluble ash (cc N/10 acid)025
Alkalinity of insoluble ash (cc N/10 acid)145
Polarization, direct at 20° C (°V)	+64.5
Polarization, invert at 20° C (°V)	-23.6
Polarization, invert at 86° C (°V)	0.0
Sucrose, Clerget (per cent)	66.41
Commercial glucose	0.0
Lead number	None

It was apparent that the article was adulterated and misbranded; adulterated because of the substitution of cane sugar for maple sugar and misbranded because it was labeled "Maple Sugar 40%, Cane Sugar 60%," when, as a matter of fact, it con-

tained no maple sugar. The Secretary of Agriculture having, on September 30, 1908, afforded the manufacturers an opportunity to show any fault or error in the aforesaid analysis and they having failed to do so, the facts were reported to the Attorney General on February 20, 1909, and the case referred to the United States attorney for the eastern district of Michigan, who filed an information against the said E. A. Charbonneau Company, with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 99. *Misbranding of Syrup.* (As to place of manufacture and amount of maple sugar present.)

The facts in the case were as follows:

On January 18, 1908, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture purchased from John Ghiotto, Yuma, Ariz., a sample of a food product labeled "Strictly Pure Canada Maple and White Sugar Blended Syrup. Pacific Coast Syrup Co. San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland." This sample was a part of a shipment made by the Pacific Coast Syrup Company from Los Angeles, Cal., to John Ghiotto, Yuma, Ariz., on or about November 7, 1907. The sample was subjected to analysis in the Bureau of Chemistry of the United States Department of Agriculture, and was found to contain but a very small amount of maple syrup.

It was apparent that the syrup was misbranded within the meaning of section 8 of the act in that the label "Strictly Pure Canada Maple and White Sugar Blended Syrup" represented that the syrup was composed for the greater part of maple syrup and that its source of origin was the Dominion of Canada, whereas it contained but a very small amount of maple syrup and was produced and manufactured in California. The Secretary of Agriculture having, on August 5, 1908, afforded the manufacturers an opportunity to show any fault or error in the aforesaid analysis and they having failed to do so, the facts were duly reported to the Attorney General on December 17, 1908, and the case referred to the United States attorney for the southern district of California, who filed an information against the said Pacific Coast Syrup Company, with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 100. *Misbranding of Sirup.* (As to place of manufacture and manufacturer.)

The facts in the case were as follows:

On or about January 5, 1909, an inspector of the Department of Agriculture found in the possession of George Bubb and Sons, Williamsport, Pa., 20 barrels and 8 half barrels of sirup labeled "George Bubb and Sons, Haleeka Club Sirup, Compound 90 per cent Corn Sirup, 10 per cent Refiners Sirup, Williamsport, Pa." The sirup had been shipped by the Corn Products Refining Company from Granite City, Ill., to George Bubb and Sons, Williamsport, Pa., on December 14, 1908. It was misbranded in violation of section 8 of the act because the label thereon represented that it had been manufactured by George Bubb and Sons, at Williamsport, Pa., when, in fact, it had been manufactured by the Corn Products Refining Company at Granite City, Ill. On January 6, 1909, the facts were reported by the Secretary of Agriculture to the United States attorney for the middle district of Pennsylvania and libel for seizure and condemnation of the sirup, under section 10 of the act, was duly filed with the result hereinbefore stated.

No. 101. *Adulteration of Oats.* (Mixed with barley and other foreign grains.)

The facts in the case were as follows:

On March 24, 1909, R. E. Stallings, State chemist of Georgia, acting under directions of Hon. T. G. Hudson, Commissioner of Agriculture of said State, in pursuance of the authorization of the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, in accordance with regulation 3 of the rules and regulations for the enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, found in Atlanta, Ga., a consignment of two carloads of grain purporting to be "No. 3 White Oats," samples of which were taken and analyzed. The oats had been shipped by the Interstate Warehouse and Elevator Company from St. Louis, Mo., on or about March 17, 1909, to Atlanta, Ga., with instructions to notify T. H. Brooke & Co., of the last named city. The analysis disclosed that the oats in one of the cars contained 19.25 per cent of barley and 8.55 per cent of other seeds not oats and chaff, and that the oats in the other car contained 23.98 per cent of barley and 5.86 per cent of chaff and other seeds not oats.

The facts were reported by the Commissioner of Agriculture of Georgia to the United States attorney for the northern district of said State and libel for seizure and condemnation of the oats was duly filed, under section 10 of the act, with the result hereinbefore stated.

The following is a list of the persons accused, the foods found to be adulterated or mislabeled, and the nature of the offenses, which were included in the report of the Director of the State Laboratory to this Board on September 8, 1909. These persons were afforded an opportunity to be heard before this Board, as provided in said act, on October

2, 1909, and after such hearing, the findings of the Director being sustained, these cases were referred to the district attorneys of the several counties for prosecution:

Certif- cate No.	Material.	Violation.	Name of Dealer.	Locality.
669	Headache wafers -----	Mislabeled. Contains acetanilid -----	C. S. Chestnut Drug Company -----	Redlands
672	Cold cure -----	Mislabeled. Contains acetanilid -----	Hervey & Parsons -----	Santa Ana
673	Paregoric -----	Mislabeled. Contains alcohol and opium -----	Klauber-Wangenhei- mer -----	La Mesa
674	Chopped meat --	Adulterated with sulphur dioxide -----	Stevenson & Son, Cir- cle City Market -----	Corona
675	Chopped meat --	Adulterated with sulphur dioxide -----	Corona Cash Market --	Corona
676	Chopped meat --	Adulterated with sulphur dioxide -----	Tustin Meat Market --	Tustin
677	Ice cream -----	Below standard butter fat	J. Francis Patter -----	Santa Ana
678	Lemon syrup ---	Mislabeled. Contains coal-tar color -----	Yanagi & NoKamara --	Los Angeles
679	Raspberry syrup -----	Mislabeled. Contains coal-tar color -----	J. Scolinas -----	Los Angeles
680	Banana syrup --	Mislabeled. Contains coal-tar color -----	T. Ota -----	Los Angeles
681	Strawberry syrup -----	Mislabeled. Contains coal-tar color -----	A. Papas -----	Los Angeles
682	Lemon syrup ---	Mislabeled. Contains coal-tar color -----	S. Hirogugi -----	Los Angeles
684	Lemon extract --	Mislabeled. Contains coal-tar color -----	Albert Cohn -----	Los Angeles

DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY.

WILLIAM F. SNOW.

EPIDEMIOLOGY.

There were no important epidemics during the month. The schools of six communities were reported closed during a large part of the month on account of scarlet fever, diphtheria, and smallpox. These were all instances of neglected isolation of precautions in the early cases.

An investigation of the 58 deaths from typhoid fever resulted in the tabulating of over 50 foci of infection, the source being indeterminate in most of them.

Two deaths from beri-beri were reported in Japanese colonies.

One death and three cases of amoebic dysentery were reported but could not be traced. The death was that of a railroad laborer in the San Joaquin valley, a Mexican known to have been in California for four years and in Texas six years prior to his residence in this State.

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION

REGULAR PUBLICATIONS

1. Bulletin, published monthly (back numbers on request).
2. Biennial Report, next report June 30, 1910 (back numbers on request).

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

3. California Pure Foods and Drugs Acts, 1909, with Rules and Regulations, Standards of Purity, and Decisions rendered by Secretary of Agriculture. Indexed.
4. General Health Laws of the State of California, 1909. Indexed, with alphabetical references to other statutes and sections relating to the subject.
5. Law for Registration of Vital Statistics in California, 1905. Amended by Chapters 92 and 236, Statutes of 1907.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The State Board of Health desires to call attention to the distribution of Diphtheria Antitoxin and other biologic products.

Upon application arrangements will be made with any druggist to keep on hand, subject to requisition by the Health Officer of his community, packages of antitoxin for use in indigent cases. The following rates will apply to the product of the Cutter Laboratories of Berkeley:

1000 units.....	\$0.75	4000 units.....	\$2.25
2000 units.....	1.25	5000 units.....	2.75
3000 units.....	1.75		

Arrangements will also be made, upon application, to keep druggists and local health officers supplied with outfits for examination of the sputum, of throat cultures, and of the blood for typhoid fever and malaria.

Requests for the examination of water samples, and for the investigation of typhoid fever or other epidemics should be addressed to the Secretary. Whenever possibly a field officer will be sent out to make a detailed sanitary report, including the collection of the samples.

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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**THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF
HEALTH BULLETIN WILL BE SENT
FREE TO ANY CITIZEN OF THE STATE
ON REQUEST.**